This Issue of the A. F. of L. Weekly News Service Consists of 2 Pages

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives news accounts and editorial interpretations of matters affecting labor, concerning in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and contains other information of benefit to the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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The pleasures of the rich are bought with the tears of the poor.—Thomas Fuller.

WHOLE NO. 1432 WILLIAM GREEN, President WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1938 FRANK MORRISON, Secretary-Treasurer VOL. 28, NO. 39

A. F. of L. Achievements Under Democratic Rule Stressed by Hines

Director of Organization of American Federation of Labor Cites Big Membership Increase As Proof that the Workers Are Hostile to the Dualism and Disruption Fomented by Lewis and His C. I. O. Associates with the Aid of the Communists; Private Ownership with Fair Return on Investment Coupled with High Wages, Trade Union Recognition and Collective Bargaining Emphasized as Fundamental A. F. of L. Principles.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

A clearly worded statement regarding the benefits which the American Federation of Labor has achieved for working men and women by bona fide collective bargaining and the application of the principle of majority rule and democratic procedure in the labor movement characterized the Labor Day address delivered by Lewis G. Hines, director of organization of the American Federation of Labor, at Toronto, Canada, under the auspices of the Toronto Trades and Labor Assembly.

Citing an increase in A. F. of L. membership of over a million during the last year and a half as outstanding proof that the workers have confidence in the American Federation of Labor, Mr. Hines pointed out that the fundamental principles of the A. F. of L. include high wages, recognition of trade unionism and collective bargaining to guarantee the rights of labor, coupled with private ownership, private initiative, and a fair return on investment for business and allied interests.

He scathingly condemned the scheme to overthrow majority rule in the American Federation of Labor and substitute therefor a minority dictatorship undertaken by John L. Lewis and his associates in the formation of the Committee for Industrial Organization, and presented incontestable facts regarding the dualism of the Communist-Lewis-C. I. O. leadership in fomenting dualism and disruption in the labor movement.

In conclusion, Mr. Hines declared that the labor movements of Canada and the United States are the finest in the world, all dictatorships and predicted a glorious future for the workers of both countries under the constructive program of bona fide organized labor.

The text of Mr. Hines' Labor Day address follows:

Mr. Chairman, my fellow members of the American Federation of Labor and friends, I am indeed happy to have this opportunity to address myself to the citizens of Toronto on this auspicious and historic occasion.

I am especially happy to have the honor of representing the greatest institution on the North American Continent and to bring to our fellow members in your great Dominion of Canada the fraternal greetings of that outstanding American and champion of human rights, the President of the great American Federation of Labor, William Green.

ORIGIN OF LABOR DAY

Over half a century ago, through the efforts of one F. J. McGuire, whose name will ever be enshrined in our memories and our heart ever and a half, these figures are based upon actual per capita tax records of dues-paying members, records that are an open book for all who care to read, figure that cannot be confused with the idle boasts of organizations claiming to represent what for the most part is Toronto is a paper membership.

Agreements were negotiated for the first time, or renewed during the past year, far outnumber those of any similar period in our history. That this progress may well continue is acknowledged by all enlightened persons.

PRIVATE OWNERSHIP AND FAIR RETURN ON INVESTMENT UPHELD; COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AND HIGH WAGES DEMANDED

It has ever been the purpose of the American Federation of Labor to seek cooperation and endeavor to establish friendly relationships with our employers. In a recent statement of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor it was pointed out that:

"We are committed to the principles of private ownership and private initiative and the protection of private property, the right to own and manage private property must be freely conceded and safeguarded; and that the working people must be accorded the right to organize and bargain collectively and that the highest wages which industry can afford should be paid; and a fair return upon the investment secured to those who own private property must be freely conceded.

INDUSTRIAL DEMOCRACY URGED AS SUBSTITUTE FOR INDUSTRIAL WELFARE

"The principles of industrial democracy through which labor and management may solve their common economic problems should be recognized and applied in the industrial relationship through the development of teamwork between industry and labor under which mutual confidence can be established, and the maximum of service rendered.

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Unions May Obtain Old-Age Insurance Wage Inquiry Cards For Their Members

Information Received from Workers Is Used by Social Security Board to Check Wage Reports Made by Employers.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Washington, D. C.—Labor organizations may obtain for their members copies of the post card which has printed on it a request for a statement showing the amount of wages credited to the social security account of an employe for 1937 on the basis of reports made by employers.

According to an announcement by the Social Security Board these post cards have been sent to all field offices of the board and may be obtained by any worker for whom an old-age insurance account has been established. They are left for the worker to write in his name, account number, and address. The card should be mailed, either with a 1-cent stamp, or in a sealed envelope addressed to the Social Security Board, Candler Building, Baltimore, Maryland.

A special form has also been made available at all field offices for the use of anyone who believes that he earned

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Plumbers Union Asks Federal Housing Authority To Apply Prevailing Wage

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Action by the delegates to the twenty-third convention of the United Association of Journeymen Plumbers and Steam Fitters of the United States and Canada, recently held at Atlantic City, N. J., adopted a resolution criticizing the Federal Housing Authority for failing to insist that prevailing wages be paid on all Federal Housing Administration projects, which failure, the convention said, had done great damage to the building industry.

During that stress he takes to correct this manifest evil the convention asked the FHA to immediately begin including in its contracts with borrowers a provision that they shall pay workers the prevailing wage scale in their communities. The convention held that many borrowers had taken advantage of the depressed condition in the building industry by refusing to negotiate any wage standards.

Another resolution adopted by the convention asked that social security be extended to workers whom it does not now cover, especially those employed by the Federal Government.

The convention also granted local unions the right to organize apprentices and limit their numbers.

John Coefield of San Francisco was reelected president of the union, and Thomas E. Burke of Chicago was reelected secretary-treasurer. George Masterton, general organizer, was named to fill the new position of assistant president, and Frank J. Kennedy, Washington, D. C., was chosen assistant secretary.

GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION BILL OPPOSED BY THE A. F. OF L.

Danger Seen in Broad Delegation of Congressional Authority to the Executive Branch of the Government; Abolition of Bi-Partisan Civil Service Commission, Proposed by the Measure, Challenged as Blow at Merit System for Hundreds of Thousands of Federal Employes.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

The expressed determination of administration leaders to bring the Government Reorganization Bill, defeated by the last Congress before the Congress which convenes the first week in January, is of vital importance to the workers and others who believe that the policy expressed in the bill is unwise.

It will be recalled that the American Federation of Labor opposed the Reorganization Bill when it was under consideration by both Houses of Congress and that the House of Representatives by overwhelming majority killed the bill, which was done.

The general opposition of the American Federation of Labor to the bill was based on the belief that "Congress ought to retain all its constitutional authority in conformity with principles of democratic government," that "said power ought to be broadened and extended but never curtailed nor surrendered," and that the Reorganization Bill "represents a broad and sweeping delegation of congressional authority to the executive branch of the Government."

Green Outlines A. F. of L. Opposition to the Bill

When the bill was before the Senate the opposition of the American Federation of Labor to it was trenchantly expressed by William Green, president of the Federation, in a forceful condemnation of the proposal for abolition of the bi-partisan U. S. Civil Service Commission and the creation of a single Civil Service Administrator with authority over the merit system of the Federal service, including the records of thousands of men and women employed by the Government.

In a letter addressed to each of the 96 U. S. Senators who were considering the bill, Mr. Green stressed his profound conviction: "that the faith of the masses of the people in the merit system and the administration of the civil service legislation will be strengthened through the maintenance of a bi-partisan Civil Service Commission." With equal emphasis he declared that "confidence in the administration of civil service laws will be greatly impaired if a single administrator is substituted for the bi-partisan Civil Service Commission."

In view of the fact that the entire subject matter covered by the proposed reorganization of the Government is scheduled to come before the representatives of the citizens at the next session of Congress, it is important that workers and others who are interested understand the fundamental philosophy underlying the opposition of the American Federation of Labor to some of the important provisions in the reorganization bill.

The following is the text of President Green's letter to the members of the Senate setting forth the position of the Federation with respect to the proposed legislation:

"The members of the American Federation of Labor are deeply interested in the provisions of Senate Bill 3331, generally known as the Reorganization Bill. We are in accord with the provisions of this measure which have for their purpose the promotion of efficiency and economy, provided that these economies of government operation are not effected at the expense or sacrifice of wages and standards of employment already secured by government workers. We rely upon the members of Congress to jealously guard and protect both the wage and work standards now in effect for government employes.

One-Man Board Plan

There is one feature of the proposed government reorganization bill to which the officers and members of the American Federation of Labor are strongly opposed. I refer to the section of the Reorganization Bill which reads as follows:

"Sec. 201 (a). There is hereby established in the Executive branch of the Government an organization to

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EDITORIAL

Inadequate Medical Care For Low-Income Groups

Homer S. Cummings, Attorney General of the United States, announces that during October the Department of Justice will present to the grand jury of the District of Columbia the Department's case against the Medical Society of the District of Columbia and the American Medical Association charging unlawful restraint of trade in reported activities against the Group Health Association, Inc., composed of a number of hundred Government employes in the nature of a medical cooperative.

In connection with the restraint of trade complaint the Justice Department alleges that efforts were made to coerce and boycott physicians carried on by the Group Health Association, Inc., in violation of the rights of approved professional qualifications because they were in the service of the Group Health Association.

Regardless of the merits or demerits of the charges filed by the Department of Justice, the dire need of low-income groups for more adequate medical care is a fact that is well established.

The truth regarding these depressed areas of our population was clearly and succinctly set forth by Assistant Attorney General Thurman Arnold in his original statement that the Department of Justice had referred the charges of unlawful restraint of trade and other illegal activities to the grand jury of the District of Columbia. Here is the way Mr. Arnold put his case:

"Recent studies by Government technicians have brought out the fact that the forty million persons in the United States in families with annual incomes of less than $1,000 cannot pay for medical care, and in many cases do not receive it when they are in need of it.

"For instance, at least half the present toll of mothers' deaths in childbearing, and of infants in the first month of life, are preventable with proper prenatal care and medical services in delivery. Half the babies born annually in the country, a total of more than 1,000,000 babies a year. It is therefore significant that infant mortality is five times higher in families with less than $500 a year than it is in families with $3,000 or more a year.

"These facts are cited because experience has demonstrated the definite possibility of reducing infant mortality and of danger to mothers by proper care. The enormous difference in the records of low-income families in prima facie evidence that the medical profession as it is now organized is not providing them with adequate care.

"Acute illness of all kinds increases as one goes down the income scale. It is 47 per cent more prevalent in families on relief than in those with $3,000-or more annual income. Chronic illness are 87 per cent more prevalent in relief families; non-relief families of less than $1,000 income have twice the illness disability of families with more than $1,000.

"In any one year, 10 per cent of the families bear 41 per cent of the costs of illness. Another 32 per cent of the families bear 41 per cent of the costs, while the remaining 58 per cent of the families bear only 18 per cent of the costs."

It should be remembered that these low-income groups are not the medically indigent who have access to free clinics provided by charitable organizations. They are, as Mr. Arnold explains, "those with income enough to pay for some medical service," but they "either cannot avail themselves of these free facilities, or, because of self-respect, they do not desire to do so. Such persons experience no difficulty when their medical needs are slight; but when serious illness strikes, or several members of the family require attention within a short time, the financial burden is accepted."

It is to be hoped that the various standing medical associations and societies and those profoundly interested in group health plans will succeed in dispelling their differences and unite in formulating a medical care system that will meet the needs of the low-income groups who are now sadly and unduly unable to purchase adequate medical attention for themselves and their families.

FARMERS UNION OUSTS PASTOR AS COMMUNIST

Memphis, Tenn. (AFLWNS)—The Brotherhood of Commonwealth College, with headquarters at Mena, Ark., was asked to resign a number of weeks ago, but refused.

According to the union's announcement the document revealed that Mr. Williams "is a member of the Communist party and was to lead a movement to take over the sharecropper's organization."

PRINTERS UNION FAVORS MANDATORY 5-DAY WEEK

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

The recent convention of the International Typographical Union at Birmingham, Ala., adopted a proposal under which the five-day week will be mandatory in union shops throughout the printing industry. The proposal will be submitted to a referendum of the Typographical Union members in the United States and Canada.

OCCUPATIONAL SURVEY PROGRESS IS REPORTED

District of Columbia Board of Trade Plans Using Information for Employment Relief and Vocational Training.

Washington, D. C. (AFLWNS)—Considerable progress is reported in the occupational survey sponsored by the Washington Board of Trade and the District of Columbia Guidance Counseling Council, with the endorsement of the Employment Committee.

The primary purpose of the survey, in which the Public Employment Center and the District of Columbia Works Progress Administration are also cooperating, is to compile information on available jobs in Washington for the guidance of those in search of vocational training for both children and adults.

Returns have been received from approximately 200 employers covering more than 15,000 jobs. Officials in charge of the survey said that many banks, public utility companies, department stores, hotels and other large employers are responding to the call for information concerning jobs.

The survey is expected to reveal not only what types of jobs are available, but it also will show what special educational qualifications, training and experience are necessary to fill them. From this business man's point of view the information is expected to result in the training of thousands of men and women for available employment.

B. T. OSBORNE, OREGON LABOR LEADER, IS DEAD

Executive Secretary of Oregon State Federation of Labor Succumbed at Portland September 6 as Result of Paralytic Stroke.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

The trade union movement has lost a valuable member and the community an estimable citizen in the death of Ben T. Osborne, executive secretary of the Oregon State Federation of Labor, who passed away in Portland, Oregon, September 6, following a paralytic stroke.

Mr. Osborne was born in McHae, Arkansas, August 11, 1876.

He was initiated into Local No. 29, Bridge and Structural Iron Workers, Portland, August 6, 1910. He was elected business agent of Local 29 in 1912, serving in that capacity three years. In 1916 he was made an international organizer for the Bridge and Structural Iron Workers, in which position he served until 1924. Returning to Portland, he resumed work at his trade and again became active as a business agent of Local No. 29 in 1928.

On July 12, 1926, C. U. Taylor, executive secretary of the Oregon State Federation of Labor, died and Mr. Osborne was appointed by the Executive Board to fill the unexpired term. He was reelected secretary successively each year from that date and filled the functions of the office until his death.

Interment was held in the Labor Temple Auditorium at Portland September 10, funeral services being held in and out of the labor movement. Hundreds filled the auditorium of labor leader. The large auditorium, located on the fifth floor of the Labor Temple, was beautifully decorated with floral tributes which were banked high about the casket.

Interment was in Riverview Cemetery, Portland, at the grave of Masons in charge of Washington Masonic Lodge No. 77, A. F. and A. M., conferred burial.

He was also a member of Washington Chapter, Washington Commandery and Al Kader Temple of Shriners.

Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Neva Osborne; a brother, J. W. Osborne, and a sister, Mrs. G. W. Price, both of whom reside in McHae, Arkansas.

CANTON TREATRE UNION WINS THREE CONTRACTS

Canton, Ohio (AFLWNS)—Local No. 671, International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes and Moving Picture Machine Operators of the United States and Canada, has negotiated contracts with the three first-run houses here: Loew's, Warner Brothers Ohio, and the Palace.

These contracts run for a period of three years, with the prevailing 1937-38 wage scale in effect from August to September 1, 1939, and increases each year thereafter, approximating six and one-half per cent. There is also an increase in the scale of pay for special and more especial shows.

Contracts in six second-run theatres do not expire for two years, and call for an increase of 5 per cent yearly over each year. Canton has four-man operation in all houses, with the exception of two suburban houses which have two-man operation.

20,800,000 RECEIVED PUBLIC AID IN JULY

Washington, D. C. (AFLWNS)—The appalling extent of destitution in the United States, caused largely by the existence of an unemployed army numbering around 11,000,000, is emphasized by the report of the Social Security Board made public that 20,800,000 persons, comprising about 20,800,000 persons, were given some sort of Federal, State or local relief during July. Chiefly, the amount paid out by these agencies totaled $58,000,000.

TAXICABS MUST SHOW INSURANCE STICKERS

Washington, D. C. (AFLWNS)—The District of Columbia Public Utilities Commission has issued a rule requiring windshield stickers for all taxicabs whose owners have complied with the new mandatory liability insurance law enacted last summer by Congress to cover all taxi's operated in the District of Columbia.

Taxicabs will be required to display the stickers before they can be operated. A new colored sticker will be issued each week.

EXORBITANT FINANCING COSTS HINDER HOME CONSTRUCTION

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

The housing section of the building industry has responded materially to the stimulus given by the Government in slightly reducing the interest rate on Government-insured mortgages on homes and lowering to ten per cent the down payment required on homes covered by such mortgages. But there still remain a number of tolls levied on those engaged in home building on a commercial scale by special interests whose services are granted on the building industry. These unwarranted charges were exposed by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, in his testimony before the Senate Banking and Currency Committee during the last Congress when the amendments to the Housing Act were under consideration. They were large enough, he said, to boost the down payment on homes financed by Government-insured mortgages from the ten per cent prescribed by the Housing Act to at least 14 per cent, amounting to $700 stead of $500 on each $5,000 house.

In view of the tremendous interest which workers have in securing homes at moderate prices, Mr. Green's testimony before the Banking and Currency Committee is of great importance. The text of his statement follows:

Usurious Interest Rates

First of all, I want to impress upon this committee the fact that in spite of all our efforts to date the most important deterrent to building construction today is still the high cost of home financing that must be shouldered by the home owner.

It is well-known that the commercial lender pays on the average more than 3 per cent interest for the use of the money necessary to complete the building operation.

We also know that the interest charges often run to the extent of 6 per cent of 15, 20 and sometimes 30 per cent per year. The burden of these usurious rates falls most heavily on those who are least able to finance the home.

Large Promotion Charges

But the price of money loaned for the completion or the home is not the only surplus cost with which the prospective home owner is faced. The cost of the original promotion and financing of a home has been estimated to be in a large number of instances at 27 cents and sometimes as much as 30 cents of the building dollar. This places the cost of financing and promotion above the cost of either labor or materials or land.

Contractors Profits and Bonding Fees Add to Cost

The organization of the actual production of houses is also such as to place an additional heavy burden upon the industry.

Not only the general contractor who usually acts as a broker but the financial contractor as well as the subcontractor who is "subbing" for the subcontractor must exact a margin of profit in order to make his participation in the building undertaking pay.

In addition, bonding and surety companies offer charge unjustified and economically wasteful rates which may become quite exorbitant when contractors' of questionable ability and ethics are bonded.

Cost Increased by Competitive Bidding

In spite of some improvements, the harmful practice of competitive bidding for building industry is still attributable to the practice of competitive bidding.

The cost of submission of preliminary estimates for a project which may in-

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Awards Under Walsh-Healey Federal Contracts Act Total $561,369,668

Contractors Are Required to Apply Eight-Hour Day and Five-Day Week, Pay Prevailing Wage, Provide Sanitary Plants, Obey Child Labor Limitations and Ban Convict Labor; Amendments Including Small Contracts and Subcontracts Were Defeated by the Last Congress.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Washington, D. C.—Ninety-two Government supply contracts valued at $4,969,082 were awarded during the week ended September 15, by six Federal agencies under the provisions of the Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Act, Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins announced.

During this period the Executive Departments reported 59 contracts valued at $3,042,082, the Federal Works Organizations reported 23 contracts valued at $1,025,980, and the Independent Establishments reported 10 contracts valued at $395,865.

According to the Act, contractors must not work their employes more than eight hours in any day or forty hours in any week, with the provision that the Secretary of Labor may, in certain cases, permit an increase in the maximum hours of labor, but such overtime work a rate of pay not less than one and one-half times the basic rate shall be paid.

Employes must be paid, "without subsequent reduction or rebate on any account," not less than the prevailing wage rates determined by the Secretary of Labor. Sanitary buildings and decent surroundings must be pro-

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President Roosevelt May Appoint Locher To Be District of Columbia Commissioner

Prominent Trade Unionist Has United Support of Organized Labor for Vacancy.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Washington, D. C.—The members organized labor in the District of Columbia are hopeful that President Roosevelt may appoint John Locher, well known Washington labor official and public spirited citizen, as one of the three Commissioners of the District of Columbia to succeed Commissioner George E. Allen, who recently resigned.

Mr. Locher is president of the Washington Central Labor Union, secretary of the Building and Construction Trades Council, and the labor member of the District of Columbia Unemployment Compensation Board. In addition, he has been selected as the Central Labor Union's delegate to the A. F. of L. convention, which opens in Houston, Texas, October 3.

In view of the fact that the thousands of workers employed by the District of Columbia have profound interests in the administration of the District government, it is their general belief that the workers should have a representative on the Board of Commissioners to administer the law.

The appointment of Mr. Locher to the board has been strongly supported by the Washington Central Union and other unions in the District. In addition, the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor and the Maryland State and D. C. Federation of Labor have requested the President to appoint Mr. Locher.

The fact that the neighborhood of one hundred persons have been suggested to President Roosevelt for this important position, it is believed that he will recognize the justice of the unanimous labor's request for representation on the Board of Commissioners and name Mr. Locher to fill the vacancy.

A. F. OF L. CEMENT WORKERS UNIONS HAVE 42 PACTS WITH CEMENT FIRMS

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

The important achievements of thoroughgoing organization of the American Federation of Labor unions were strikingly illustrated in the annual report of William Schoenberg, president of the A. F. of L. National Council of United Cement Workers, to the recent annual convention of the Council, which revealed that "of the 66 cement workers unions in the American Federation of Labor 66 have contractual relationship with 37 operating companies." In addition, three local unions have agreements with three lime manufacturing companies and two local unions have agreements with two gypsum manufacturing companies.

Medusa Cement Plants Organized

Mr. Schoenberg also reported that three strong local unions have been organized in three of the eight plants of the Medusa Portland Cement Company, and that negotiations are in sympathy with organization of its workers. The organized plants include: Manitowoc, Wisconsin, Local No. 22144; Dixon, Illinois, Local No. 21515, and York, Pennsylvania, Local No. 21208.

Organization of these three local was effected after the 1937 convention referred the matter to the officers and Executive Board of the National Council, with the co-operation of the American Federation of Labor and the several A. F. of L. local organizations in the respective communities concerned.

Aided by A. F. of L. Organizers

The A. F. of L. maintains two salaried organizers, working under direction of the Executive Council of A. F. of L., the year covered by Mr. Schoenberg's report, Samuel J. Dickens, general organizer of the A. F. of L., was very successful in organizing new unions and negotiating agreements with em-

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PAY CUT HIT BY CHILDS RESTAURANT EMPLOYES

New York, N. Y. (AFLWNS)—A number of hundred Childs Restaurant employes, organized in the Childs Service Employes Union, an American Federation of Labor affiliate, voted at a meeting here to reject a demand of the Childs management for a ten per cent decrease in wages.

The proposal of the management for the wage cut followed the workers demand for improvements over the provisions of the agreement which expires september 30. The employes asked for an increase of five cents an hour for kitchen workers, which would bring the pay up to a minimum of $14 weekly, and four cents increase for dining room employes, which would bring their wages up to 25 cents an hour. There was also a demand for seniority and an eight-hour day within a nine-hour period, which would end the prevailing practice of splitting the work day with a long gap between shifts.

A. F. of L. Achievements Under Democratic Rule Stressed by Hines

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which industry and labor may render can be given to the entire nation.

"Labor invites industry to discard the weapons of industrial warfare injected against labor by employers associations both new and in days gone by; let us have a changed attitude concerning the problems affecting industry and labor, let us substitute cooperation and understanding for industrial strife.

"All of this is easy of accomplishment because of the ability and to respect and recognize the economic, legal and industrial rights of labor and capital."

Now my friends, I think that the fair statement of our efforts is a challenge to all other groups who claim they are interested in the advancement of our national welfare. If we are to solve our economic problems there must be cooperation between all elements of our society and we are endeavoring to promote and advance the welfare of humanity.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR IS BASED ON DEMOCRATIC PROCEDURE

The American Federation of Labor is an institution founded upon the principles of democracy. Throughout the existence of over half a century, democratic procedure, embracing the principle of majority rule, has been the very cornerstone of our existences. When these principles are challenged we must be prepared to defend them.

Those who would depart from our historic democratic procedure, and who would defy the very basic principles upon which our movement was founded, have not only shown themselves to be the enemies of progress but have aligned themselves with forces hostile to the fundamental aims, principles and traditions of our great movement.

MINORITY GROUP FORMED COMMITTEE FOR INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATION

In 1936, in labor's highest tribunal, the Convention of the American Federation of Labor, an issue arose with reference to solving the question of organizational policy. What mattered it to those who raised the issue of industrial unionism that it be a false one. It seemed to serve their purpose.

The delegates to that convention, elected by the rank and file membership of the American Federation of Labor, in accordance with the democratic procedure at that body, decided the issue by an overwhelming vote.

I think it will be said by the fair will of the majority should have prevailed. The leadership of the minority, however, saw fit to defy the very principles of democracy, and, as a result of the seeming controversy the Committee for Industrial Organization was launched under the leadership of men from whom we had a right to expect adherence to the basic principles of the American Federation of Labor.

FALSITY OF C. I. O.'s INDUSTRIAL UNIONISM CHARGE EXPOSED

These leaders, who have long been unmasked for the false prophets they are, contended that the American Federation of Labor had not put forth adequate efforts to meet the organizational needs of workers in mass production industries by providing them with an industrial form of organization; this despite the fact that the American Federation of Labor had within its ranks both industrial and craft forms of organization.

LEWIS AND HIS ASSOCIATES WERE DETERMINED TO SPLIT ORGANIZED LABOR'S RANKS

Notwithstanding all the attempts made by the leadership of the American Federation of Labor to prevent a split in Labor's ranks, these false prophets, under the leadership of John L. Lewis, deliberately set out upon a program of destruction which violated every rule of decency and proper conduct laid down by the Constitution of the American Federation of Labor and followed throughout the years.

All of the elements hostile to the American Federation of Labor were gathered together by the Committee for Industrial Organization; the evil forces of Communism were embraced by John L. Lewis and his cohorts and the structure of Labor, painfully and ably builded by the Federation, through the slow but stable process of organization and education, over the years.

DUAL UNIONISM ESTABLISHED BY THE C. I. O.

For the past two years dual unionism has reared its poisonous head throughout the land. Embarking upon its program of destruction, the C. I. O. has attempted to invade the jurisdiction of every National and International Union affiliated with the American Federation of Labor.

Much talk is heard of organizing the unorganized, but the plain facts of the matter are that the efforts of this group have been put forth toward raiding the already established unions. And for what purpose? To serve the cause and promote the despotic program of the one who would become an economic and political dictator. To serve the aims and purposes of international Communism, to destroy those institutions that block the progress of world-wide revolution.

DISRUPTION FOMENTED BY COMMUNISTS AND C. I. O. LEADERS

Picket lines established by the American Federation of Labor have been violated by representatives of the C. I. O. Agreements have been signed by the Committee for Industrial Organization with employers, hostile to the American Federation of Labor and wages less than the prevailing rate for that particular kind of work in the given locality.

Unholy alliances have been entered into with associations and corporations who have consistently fought the American Federation of Labor in its efforts to better the economic conditions of their employees.

All the laws of decency and ethical standards developed by our Labor Movement have been violated. The laws of the land have been violated and the labor movement in general has been in danger of being brought into disrepute due to one or two isolated cases as a result of the Communist influences within the C. I. O. Even men employed under the C. I. O. leadership which has many decent men in its ranks have struck.

MANY COMMUNISTS EMPLOYED BY THE C. I. O.

One starts with astonishment that hundreds of members of an organization that is committed to the overthrow of our government, the Constitution of the dictatorship of the proletariat, have been employed under the personal direction of John L. Lewis, and we are further astonished at the bland assurance given us by Mr. Lewis, that he has no quarrel with a man's political philosophy.

You know, and I know, and Mr. Lewis knows, that Communism is not a political philosophy, but a social philosophy, revolutionary in character, dedicated to the overthrow of capitalism and the setting up of a dictatorship of the proletariat; a dictatorship that takes its place alongside of Nazism and Fascism, a dictatorship that would ruthlessly destroy all the democratic institutions that generations have fought so free citizens of two of the greatest countries in the world.

CRITICISM OF A. F. OF L. LEADERS BY "LUNATIC FRINGE" IS UNWARRANTED

There are those who profess to see in the programs of the Committee for Industrial Organization nothing of a destructive nature, but on the contrary, the selection of the instruments of organization. These persons are either blinded by their own emotions or lack of common sense to discern the difference between right and wrong.

There are ever within our midst those poor emotional creatures who go to the extreme in their support of the Labor Movement, and who, with no understanding of the fundamental principles or philosophy of the Labor Movement, embrace the lunatic fringe of its ranks, and unfortunately rendering a disservice to their associates and their cause.

NO ANIMUS IS HELD AGAINST C. I. O. RANK AND FILE

Many honest, sincere workers have been misled by alluring promises and glowing pictures painted by the Utopian. A campaign of vilification, calculated to poison the minds of the unthinking workers against the American Federation of Labor, has been carried on without stint.

The membership of the American Federation of Labor has had no animus against the members of the rank and file of those unions affiliated with the Committee for Industrial Organization. The fact of the matter is that in many instances the organizers who chose these workers had its origin under the guidance, financing and influence and with money spent by the American Federation of Labor in assisting them to organize these industries.

Notwithstanding the effort that has been put forth by those leaders who are in their attempt to poison the minds of the members of the C. I. O. in behalf of the American Federation of Labor, we stand ready to fulfill our obligation to all workers by inviting them to become members of our great organization. We open them to invite them to share in the progression imposed upon them by the would-be dictators and their despicable subservient influences dominating the Committee for Industrial Organization.

It is heartening to know that during the past year the membership of the American Federation of Labor has come to a full realization of the menace that is contained in the plan as a result of the activities of the C. I. O. No danger so great as indifference. Neglect or apathetic to the poisonous propaganda so widely circulated but a short time ago. Every hand our membership are indicating their loyalty and wholehearted support of the American Federation of Labor.

THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA HAVE COMMON INTERESTS

The people of Canada and the United States in the realm of economic, social, industrial and economic problems are almost identical. Many of our important industries operate on both sides of the border. Canadian Railways penetrate parts of the United States and the United States roads run into your Dominion. In both sides of the International Boundary our people hold membership in the International Unions. Our forms of government are both democratic, and we are loyal to these institutions and they to us, always.

We are a peace loving people as evidenced by the fact that for over a hundred years the border has been a place harmony. No forts or other indications of strife or defense mar the beauty of our international boundary. In this respect we teach a lesson and furnish a splendid example to the nations of the old world.

TRADE UNIONS CEMENT INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD

Many factors have contributed to this ideal condition of harmonious relationship. In my opinion, the International Trade Union Movement, of which the American Federation of Labor and your great Trades and Labor Congress are an integral part, has done much to promulgate the friendly and peaceful relationship that exists between our two nations. The constant interchange of fraternal delegates in our conventions and the impetus of a common good has done more to cement these two free peoples than all other agencies.

I deem it a great honor to have been privileged to be with you today, and I wish for the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada continued success in striving for the betterment of economic standards for your people. I wish you continued influence and to your fine, capable leaders of Labor and to the splendid people I extend our hearty wishes and sincere hope for the continuance of the friendly relationship that has so long existed between the peoples of these two great democracies.

LABOR MOVEMENT IN BOTH COUNTRIES IS UNITED AGAINST DICTATORSHIPS

In the midst of apprehension and uncertainty, the fear of war, the fear of crisis, Communism and other forms of dictatorship, the people of our two great nations face the future courageously, feeling that assurance that the free citizen men and women who go to make up the great Labor Movement are of one mind with all other decent, liberty loving people of both your country and mine, ready and equally geared to meet our enemies, both within and without, in the field of democratic procedure, in institutions and in their opposition to any form of dictatorship.

A. F. OF L. MARCHES STEADILY ONWARD IN TOILERS INTEREST

We face the future with the assurance that our movement has passed the test and women who toil will continue to progress. In the midst of the years of depression which has swept our countries during the past few years, we have been less devastating because of the magnificent efforts of all of our unions, both within and without, the American Federation of Labor, its institutions and in their opposition to any form of dictatorship.

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A. F. OF L. MARCHES STEADILY ONWARD IN TOILERS INTEREST

We face the future unafraid, and with a sure knowledge that success of the determination to carry forward our constructive program, we will continue to march onward, ever triumphant, to the goal of more of the better things of life.

We have been left a priceless heritage by those who have laid the foundation of the great movement of ours, with whom we shall keep the faith. I give you the words of the immortal Samuel Gompers: "We Must Carry On!"

GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION BILL OPPOSED BY THE A. F. OF L.

(Continued from Page 1)

known as the Civil Service Administration Bill, which provides for a new 'Administration') at the head of which there shall be a Civil Service Commissioner (hereinafter referred to as the 'Administrator'), who shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, for a term of fifteen years and shall receive a salary at the rate of $10,000 per annum. The Administrator shall be selected without regard to any political affiliations, shall be a person specially qualified for the office of Administrator by reason of his executive and administrative qualifications, with particular reference to his actual experience in, or his knowledge of, the work which will be transferred to the functions vested in that office by law.

This proposed measure would, if enacted into law, substitute a single administrator to be appointed by the President, for the Civil Service Commission, which consists of three men as constituted. The Bill now before Congress proposes to abolish the Civil Service Commission and to transfer its administrative functions to a single administrator. The Fifty-Seventh Annual Convention of the American Federation of Labor, which was held at Denver, Colorado, October, 1937, expressed itself on this subject as follows:

Opposed by A. F. of L. Convention

"Resolved, that the Fifty-Seventh Annual Convention of the American Federation of Labor endorse the proposition that the United States Civil Service Commission continue to be a bi-partisan body charged with the administration of the laws and functions relating to civilian personnel within the classified civil service of the United States, and be it further

Resolved, That the Fifty-Seventh Convention of the American Federation of Labor endorse the proposition that the United States Civil Service Commission continue to be a bi-partisan body."

Government Employes Favor Bi-Partisan Commission

The American Federation of Labor has consistently supported the merit system in government employment and has favored its application in a broad and extended way so as to cover those fields not covered by the civil service law as that is practicable and possible. It is the rank and file of labor who are more vitally affected by the administration of civil service laws. They have faith and confidence in a Civil Service Commission; they would not have the same confidence in a single administrator.

Much of this state of mind is based upon the fact that the Civil Service Commission is called upon to serve both as an appellate court in matters of transcendent importance and vital interest to civil service employes and a legislative body. We all know that important questions which involve policy and interpretations must be passed upon.

We are convinced that such questions can be treated more justly, fairly and in a more comprehensive way by a deliberative body than by a single administrator. Experience has shown that the decisions of one man would be frequently challenged and that a single administrator would be accused, justly or unjustly, of being influenced by political pressure and considerations. All of this would tend to undermine the confidence of the people in the merit system and in civil service administration.

Menace of Single Administrator

Under our form of government courts of appeal and courts of last resort are made up of three or more members. Because the Civil Service Commission serves in many instances in a judicial capacity, it is proper, therefore, that it should constitute the principle of a one man court in the administration of civil service legislation.

In behalf of the officers and members of the American Federation of Labor I sincerely and earnestly request you to oppose the substitution of a single administrator for the bi-partisan Civil Service Commission as embodied in the pending Reorganization Bill.

I am confident that the faith of the masses of the people in the merit system and the administration of civil service legislation will be strengthened through the maintenance of a bi-partisan Civil Service Commission. On the other hand, confidence in the administration of civil service laws will be greatly impaired if a single administrator is substituted for the bi-partisan Civil Service Commission.

I sincerely hope and trust you may find it possible to support the point of view of the officers of the American Federation of Labor which I have outlined in this communication.

A. F. OF L. CEMENT WORKERS UNIONS HAVE 42 PACTS WITH CEMENT FIRMS

(Continued from Page 1)

ploying companies. He also had supervision of the handling and final adjusting of the victorious Martins Creek and Nazareth strikes, as well as many other adjustments of grievances.

List of Union Companies

Mr. Schoenberg submitted the following list of cement, lime and gypsum companies with which union agreements with A. F. of L. locals, represented by the International Council of United Cement Workers:

Allentown Portland Cement Company, Alpha Portland Cement Company, Atlantic Gypsum Company, California Portland Cement Company, Coplay Portland Cement Company, Dewey Portland Cement Company, Giant Portland Cement Company, Giant Portland Cement Company, Keystone Portland Cement Company, Lawrence Portland Cement Company, Lehigh Portland Cement Company, Lehigh Lime Company, Lone Star Cement Corporation.

Marquette Cement Manufacturing Company, Missouri Portland Cement Company, Monolith Portland Cement Company, National Cement Company, National Portland Cement Company, Nazareth Portland Cement Company, North American Portland Cement Company, Northwestern Portland Cement Company, Olympic Portland Cement Company, Pacific Portland Cement Company, Penn-Dixie Cement Corporation, Peninsula Portland Cement Company (subsidiary of Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company), Riverside Portland Cement Company, Roche Harbor Lime Company, Santa Cruz Portland Cement Company.

Signal Mountain Portland Cement Company, Southwestern Portland Cement Company, Southwestern Sulphur Company, Spokane Portland Cement Company, Superior Portland Cement Company, United States Gypsum Company, Utica Hydraulic Cement Company, Valley Forge Cement Company, Washington-Idaho Lime and Cement Company, Whitehall Portland Cement Company, Yosemite Portland Cement Company.

CLOSED SHOP AGREEMENT WON BY A. F. OF L. UNION

Contract Negotiated By Chemical Workers With Martin Dennis Company, Kearny, N. J., Also Includes Paid Vacations, 40-Hour Week and Strike Ban.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Kearny, N. J.—The foregoing closed shop union agreement in effect between Chemical Workers Union, Local No. 21288 of the American Federation of Labor and Plant No. 2 of the Martin Dennis Company in Kearny provides a 40-hour week for all departments except those in which the work is limited to 42 hours, with time and a half for overtime. There is the added stipulation that "every employee shall be off at least one day out of every seven days."

In addition to recognizing the union as the collective bargaining agency for the employees, the agreement stipulates that the plant, with the stipulation that all men employed must be members of the union or join within 30 days after employment, from date of employment, there is a check-off system. The foregoing agreement setting these workers shall be paid $2 per week above the scale.

Vacations With Pay

Other sections of the agreement provide for the payment of overtime at all times; a week's notice or one week's pay in case of dismissal owing to layoff; the posting of the hours and rates of overtime work; one week's vacation with pay for those who have been employed by the company for a year or more; a shop steward and duplicate shop steward to be elected by the employees to act as representatives of the union in the settlement of grievances.

The bargaining agent or representative of the bargaining agency," the contract reads, "shall have the right to speak to the employers' premises at any time during working hours for the purpose of investigating whether or not the agreement is being carried out by the employer and employee in accordance with the terms of the agreement, and shall have the right of adjustment, provided he shall first report to the foreman or superintendent in charge of him at all times when on the employers' premises."

COMMUNISM CURB ASKED BY CONGRESSMAN MASON

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Washington.—Representative Noah Mason presented an alarming picture of the growth of Communism in the United States to the recent convention of the Illinois State Federation of Labor at Peoria, Ill., and declared that the expansion of the Red menace must be halted.

He said that Communism is spreading into the schools, into the labor movement, and into the churches. He added that its influence had even penetrated some government circles in Washington.

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STRIKE MUNITIONS CURB SOUGHT BY LA FOLLETTE

Senate Civil Liberties Committee Also Plans Additional Restrictions on Industrial Espionage and Strike-Breaking Activities.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Washington, D. C.—The Senate Civil Liberties Committee, of which Senator Robert M. La Follette is chairman, is understood to have in view proposals for legislation during the next session of Congress to definitely restrict various methods used by anti-union employers to defeat the workers in labor controversies.

One feature of the legislative program, it is said, would invoke the taxing power of the federal government and regulation of use of the mails to reduce the traffic in munitions for use by employers in labor controversies. The committee has estimated that employers have spent millions of dollars in recent years for tear gas, rifles, pistols and shotguns for strike use. It is believed that federal taxation, ban on the mails and possibly legislation regarding the sums spent for munitions would materially lessen this recognized evil.

It was also reported that other plans in the legislative program under consideration by the committee include proposals for industrial espionage by requiring registration of industrial spies and forbidding them to cross state lines; espionage work; making companies accountable for injuries or property losses due to the management or its agents; prohibiting unfair intervention of local law enforcement officials on behalf of companies during labor controversies, and strengthening existing legislation banning the interstate shipment of strike breakers.

HOSIERY MAKERS FIGHT U. S.-FINANCED PLANTS

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

The recent action of the Farm Security Administration in promoting the establishment of hosiery mills on five of its "subsistence" projects, all located in West Virginia, Tennessee, Alabama and North Carolina, has aroused protest from the Full Fashioned Hosiery Manufacturers of America.

Under the plan homestead associations plan to make arrangements with the Dexdale Hosiery Mills, Philadelphia, Pa., to operate the plants. The associations would be loaned $2,000,000 from Government funds at 3 per cent interest payable in forty years. The Dexdale company would invest $250,000 in three operating companies, which the Government loans would go for plant and equipment and also to match the Dexdale investments in operating companies.

Farm Security Administration officials said the annual output of the five mills would be "only about 200,000 pairs, unfinished."

Wage Reductions Retard Recovery

Government "Pump Priming" Provides Work for Unemployed and Aids Recovery.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

The tendency of employers here and there to impose wage reductions and thus lower the buying power of the public generally is repeating the strong warning of the American Federation of Labor Monthly Survey of Business against this mistaken practice as a definite hindrance to business recovery.

Any movement to slash pay envelope contents, the Federation said, would be thoroughly "against the public interest."

Stressing the fact that although during this depression "business activity fell back to within 17 per cent of the lowest depression level, workers' income has fallen far less and at its lowest 1938 point was still 53 per cent higher than its depression bottom," the Federation added:

"For this we may thank the wage increases of 1937 and the absence of widespread wage cutting in 1938. This reserve of buying power has been a bulwark against further decline. It has taken retailers' stocks of goods off the market and created a healthy basis for a revival now starting. . . . The present high level of workers' income will prove a second lifting force.

Benefits of Government Spending

Emphasizing the importance of the Government's "pump priming" role in providing jobs and purchasing power for the unemployed, the Federation said:

"The influence of Federal Government action in stopping the 1937-38 depression is important and because our Government may be of great service in the future in checking other business depressions, it is well worth while to examine in some detail the results in the present circumstances.

"To union members, any action to prevent business depressions and lessen their effects is most important; for in addition to the benefits which all members oit of work, depressions may destroy in a few months gains built up through years of careful negotiation and patient gains.

"Past experience has shown us that 'pump priming' is not effective unless well timed. We are convinced now, however the pump priming seemed to come in the nick of time.

"Due in important measure to the natural upswing in the buying power of business in early June, 1938, had recovered from much of its depression slump. Stabilization at the time when it could resume an upward climb was needed to secure it. Industry had been worked off to a large extent, price were stabilized, there was no excess price or credit inflation.

"Because these factors are inadequate however, it was not possible for business men in general to know the size of the job that was to be done. Sphere of gloom had predominated and many had given up hope.

"Business was as it were poised at the edge of a precipice. Government wage cuts could have plunged it into the depths. Government spending inspired confidence and the certainty that buying would increase could lift it upward to a higher level.

"The Government spending program was launched at this moment."

Jobs for 1,540,000 Created

Pointing out that although the first effect of the "pump priming" program was reflected in higher stock market prices, "the real test was the spending spirit of optimism in business circles created hereby and also knocked the 'talk of wage cutting' adding:

"Surveying the progress thus far made in the Government's program of create employment, we find that funds have already been set aside which will provide 3,537,000 man-months of employment during the year 1938. This is equivalent to full-year jobs for nearly 770,000 persons, or half-year jobs for 1,540,000. This is a substantial help for the nation's employment and buying power.

"No recovery can be made without increasing buying power," the Federation's survey concluded. "Wage cutting at the present time is against the public interest."

CEMENT WORKERS UNION HONOR SAMUEL DISKAN

Dinner Given to A. F. of L. Organizer in Bath, Pa., War Attended by Many Labor Officials and Other Friends.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

A notable testimonial dinner to Organizer Samuel Diskan by the American Federation of Labor was given recently by the Lehigh Conference Board of the National Council of United Cement Workers, in appreciation of the splendid work Mr. Diskan has done in behalf of the Cement Workers affiliated with the A. F. of L. throughout the year, during his assignment to assist that group.

The dinner, held in Eagles Auditorium at Bath, Pa., was attended by approximately 300 cement workers and many guests.

Among the attendance included Mr. Diskan, his wife and two grown sons, Lewis G. Hines, director of organization of the A. F. of L.; Harry C. Bates and James L. McDevitt, president of the Building Trades Department of the A. F. of L.; Harry Burt, secretary-treasurer; J. T. Holt, corresponding secretary; Lee T. Johnson, plant chairman; C. A. Hall, secretary-treasurer; J. T. Holt, corresponding secretary; Lee T. Johnson, plant chairman; C. A. Hall, secretary-treasurer; J. T. Holt, corresponding secretary; Lee T. Johnson, plant chairman; Harry Burt, secretary-treasurer; Harry C. Bates, vice-president, Building Trades Department; Warner D. Curry, president of the Pennsylvania Central Labor Union; Harold Burch, secretary of the Pennsylvania Federal Labor Union, and James Knoud, Philadelphia representative of the American Federation of Labor, and Samuel Gompers, elected as toastmaster.

Among the guests were the president of the National Council of Cement Workers, Arthur Coleman of the dinner, the presented Mr. Diskan with a gold watch as appreciation of the sincere appreciation and high esteem in which Mr. Diskan was held by the membership of the union.

65,000 NEW UNEMPLOYED WILL GET JOBS IN CCC

Washington, D. C. (AFLWNS).—Sixty-five thousand new men from the drought-and-flood-stricken areas and eleven million will be enrolled by the Civilian Conservation Corps in a replacement program from October 1 to 30, James J. McEntee, acting director of the CCC announced.

The new spring quota in the CCC camps will fill the vacancies caused by the departure of 65,000 enrollees who have been hired by private employers or whose terms have expired.

The new recruits will bring the strength of the CCC back to the authorized 300,000, exclusive of Indians and territorials.

EXORBITANT FINANCING COSTS HINDER HOME CONSTRUCTION

(Continued from Page 1)

volve twenty-five trades and include several general contractors may easily run into thousands of dollars, between two hundred and three hundred firms taking part in a single construction job. When the bidder is successful, he must take the cost of many sub-contractors' bids if he is to survive.

This system represents an enormous amount of overhead and needless waste. When considered together with other factors in the road of construction, then if I have mentioned, it is difficult to understand how the current building can be attributed to the wage levels secured and established in this industry by building mechanics and building laborers.

Special Fees for Loan and Insurance Augment Cost

Even under the FHA plan, in addition to the 10 per cent down payment required as a minimum under the provided. Sweatshops and homework must be abolished. The labor of men under 16 and girls under 18, with certain tolerances in the textile industry, is prohibited. There is also a prohibition against the employment of convicts.

The Public Contracts Act, with the support of the American Federation of Labor, was made Federal statute law in 1936, becoming effective on September 2nd of that year. Since then 10,154 contracts valued at $561,369,668 have been awarded to firms throughout the United States and its territories which have agreed to comply with its stipulations.

4 Amendments Are Urged

The present Public Contracts Act is limited to contracts in excess of $10,000. The United States Senate, just before Congress adjourned last Sum-

Awards Under Walsh-Healey Federal Contracts Act Total $561,369,668

(Continued from Page 1)

mer, passed a bill, supported by the Administration, to lower the limit by amending the Act so as to include all contracts in excess of $2,000 and excluded it to subsequently reduce the amount equals or exceeds $500 and to contracts for services and vessels. In explaining the urgent need for extending the scope of the Act downward the contracts in excess of $2,000 the Senate Committee on Education and Labor in reporting the bill said "the $10,000 limitation in the Public Contracts Act of 1936 "covers only about three per cent of the total number of supply contracts and only fifteen per cent of their total value."

A bill similar to the Senate bill was reported by the House Judiciary Committee in the closing days of the session, but failed to reach a vote due to the legislative jam that clogged parliamentary action on many important measures.

Unions May Obtain Old-Age Insurance Wage Inquiry Cards For Their Members

(Continued from Page 1)

wages that were not reported. On this form the wage earner should list each employer for whom he has worked, how long he was employed by each, and the wages he received.

Field office managers have been instructed to secure in all individuals requesting wage information that they have not received since originated by letter cannot be handled by the Bureau of Old-Age Insurance as rapidly as those made on the forms.

Requests for statements of wage accounts submitted by unions have received more than 12,000 wage earners, according to John J. Corson, Director of the Board's Bureau of Old-Age Insurance. The Bureau, he said, had replied to those sent out, many months and had received in return very few complaints that the amounts of wages did not include all the wages that had been paid.

The only cases in which it was impossible to provide applicants with statements of wages received were those to which the individuals had been engaged in employment not covered by the old-age insurance provisions of the Social Security Act, such as casual work, farm labor, and domestic service

LADIES' HANDBAG UNION OFFICIALS ARE PRAISED

Locals in Petersburg, Va., Commend Them for Services in Securing Agreement With American Hardware Company.

Petersburg, Va. (AFLWNS).—Following the negotiation of the recent agreement with the American Hardware Company here by the Luggage Department of the International Ladies' Handbag, Pocketbook and Novelty Workers Union, the International Executive Board of Locals 52 and 54 expressed their appreciation of the work of the officers of the International Union in effecting the settlement of the long controversy.

The agreement provided for the preferential shop, 40-hour week, wage increases, seniority, time pay for all overtime and arbitration for the adjustment of disputes.

The following statement was issued by the Executive Board of the two locals:

"The Executive Board of Locals No. 52 and 54 wish to acknowledge with appreciation the cooperation given by the officials of the International Ladies' Handbag, Pocketbook and Novelty Workers' Union, and the entire membership of the International, in negotiating the contract between Locals Nos. 52 and 54 and the American Hardware Company, Inc., of Petersburg, Va.

"This acknowledgment would not be complete without mentioning those who negotiated the contract and held the agreement in the face of many obstacles.

"Credit for failure of the sponsors to obtain the necessary number of signatures is due the splendid work of the Federation of Labor and its loyal affiliates and supporters of Vandervoort and Barry.

"Within a few days after the Attorney General supplied the ballot title for the Federation of Labor's referendum on a legal attack. Four times we resorted to legal action, at considerable cost, to block the proposal.

"An intensive campaign of publicity was carried on throughout the State, and the Federation's counsel and others was asked to assist. Other organizations, realizing the undemocratic principles involved, jumped to the aid in the hand wagon.

"How successful our battle was is shown by the fact that the sponsors of the initiative three times set the date for filing final supplemental petitions expired.

"Labor showed its strength in this fight. Everyone knows the money power behind the anti-labor movement. The same watchfulness and fighting spirit must prevail against other anti-labor measures and our enemies.

"To the members of organized labor and their friends, the Federation and all others who so staunchly responded to the appeal of the California State Federation of Labor in combatting the Labor Relations Initiative, the officers of the Federation extend their sincere thanks.

"Labor's victory proves that in Unity There Is Strength' and we must maintain this unity through the coming campaign against all antilabor proposals at coming elections."

"Heartiest congratulations to those who aided in defeating the most vicious anti-labor proposal that has been put before the people of California."

UNION INCORPORATION KILLED IN CALIFORNIA

Firm Fight of State Federation of Labor Prevented Reactionaries Seeking Destruction of Trade Unions by Damage Suits From Placing Proposal on Initiative Ballot.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Sacramento, Calif.—The vicious "Labor Organizations" initiative of the anti-labor bandits will not appear on the November ballot in California as the result of the fight waged against it recently by the California State Federation of Labor.

The purpose of the bill was to make it possible for anti-union groups to bring suits for damages against trade unions by rendering them liable for large sums of damages and thereby reduce them to financial impotence.

The board of directors of the Women of the Press, which sponsored the initiative petition, announced at a meeting in Los Angeles three days before the deadline date that they were "postponing" until 1940 an attempt to put the anti-labor measure on the ballot.

Thousands of dollars and thousands of dollars to the unions of the State of California, Vandeleur, secretary of the State Federation of Labor said. "Had the required number of signatures been obtained the cost of fighting the measure in the coming campaign would have been astronomical.

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the Bronx, called a strike against twenty-five shops controlled by independent contractors who were declined to recognize the painters union. After a brief walkout, involving more than 1,500 men, had lasted three days the contractors signed a union agreement. Louis Weinstock, spokesman for the union, said the contract provided for a five-day, thirty-five hour week, a $10.80 daily wage, jurisdiction over spraying machines, and the establishment of a control board for the industry.